

(e.g., to better evaluate the thermal state vis-à-vis related oil and natural gas applications and/or in tectonic studies and/or in studies related to the crystallization of minerals).

Such practical applications of this technology are also reflected in the references cited in the specification of this application as is self-evident even from the titles of these published articles in the prior art. The applicant's invention is clearly of benefit to the Geoscientific community dealing with Geodynamical problems (e.g., see the applicant's specification at page 8, in the section just above the citation of references).

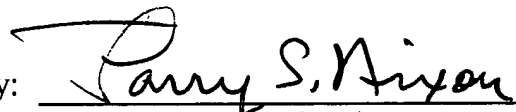
While it may well be true that heat flow within the earth's volume is itself a "natural phenomenon", there is no "quantification" of such that is known as a "natural phenomenon". The ability to create a useable quantifiable model of this natural phenomenon is of very great and critical importance with respect to all sorts of practical applications from earthquakes to discovery of oil, natural gas and the like. The applicant's creation of an analytical model of natural phenomenon clearly has practical application. A method for obtaining an analytical expression (i.e., a useful model with practical application) does indeed produce concrete and tangible results. Such results have "real world" value and go considerably beyond a mere idea or concept as a starting point for future investigation or research. Applicant's claimed invention is the culmination of a great deal of investigation and research and represents the discovery of a concrete tangible analytical model that has useful application in the real world with respect to many practical problems having connection with thermal heat flow through the earth's surface and therewithin.

SRIVASTAVA et al.  
Appl. No: 10/813,436  
April 24, 2006

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner feel it useful, a telephone conversation with the undersigned or personal interview or the like is invited.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:   
Larry S. Nixon  
Reg. No. 25,640

LSN:vc  
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22203-1808  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100